

It's Our City Public Meeting Motion

24th March 2010

Having considered in detail the document entitled 'Canal Corridor North Site: Proposal for an Independently Facilitated Dialogue' written by Bernard Quoroll and Andy Grossman (mediators) this 'It's Our City' meeting of Lancaster residents notes the following points:

- The document states that It's Our City, along with all the other parties to the proposed dialogue are in favour of a scheme which provides an 'enhanced offer' for the City and the wider sub region (page 2). The meeting notes that this can only refer to a retail led development along the lines of the scheme proposed by Centros which has been rejected.
- The document makes clear that the developer, Centros will be a party to the proposed dialogue (page 6). The meeting notes that Centros did not appear at the Public Inquiry into the rejected scheme in June/July 2009)
- The document refers to Its Our City and others as 'objectors' and refers to Centros and others as 'promoters' (page 4). The meeting notes that these labels can only possibly apply to these parties in reference to the development proposal which was rejected by the Secretary of State in December 2009.
- The document suggests that the 'promoters' may want to proceed on the basis of an amended version of the rejected Centros scheme (page 6). The meeting rejects any dialogue proceeding on the basis of any amended version of the rejected Centros scheme.
- The document makes clear that joint statements between parties which may come out of the proposed dialogue will be made public (page 5). The document also makes clear that secret discussions on 'commercial issues' between the 'promoters' including the City Council will run in tandem with the proposed dialogue between all parties (page 6). The meeting is of the view that this is completely unacceptable.
- The document states that It's Our City needs to prove to the City Council that it can hold a mutually respectful discussion with the City Council (page 4). The meeting rejects this view.
- The document recognises that the proposed dialogue is not a mediation process as no decision could be reached which could affect a planning application process or decision later.

For the above reasons this meeting agrees that It's Our City should not participate any further in the independently facilitated dialogue and three stage process which the document authored by by Bernard Quoroll and Andy Grossman proposes.

As a way forward this meeting agrees that It's Our City should organise an inclusive conference in Lancaster in the near future which will focus on the future of the Canal Corridor North site.

IOC Strategy Group